

Message Text

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ORIGIN INT-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO HICOMTERPACIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 122188

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OGEN, TQ

SUBJECT:MOVE OF TT HIGH COURT TO PONAPE

DOTA NO. 267-TT

1. PLS PASS TO CHIEF JUSTICE BURNETT, TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COURT. I BECAME AWARE AT HONOLULU MEETINGS LAST WEEK OF IMPENDING MOVE OF TT HIGH COURT TO PONAPE. INASMUCH AS EXECUTIVE BRANCH WILL NOT HAVE FUNDS EARLIER THAN FISCAL YEAR 1979 TO FINANCE ITS MOVE, AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE YET OF FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE EITHER THAT YEAR OR SOON THEREAFTER, WE QUESTION DESIRABILITY OF EARLY MOVE BY JUDICIARY. PLEASE ADVISE (1) ESTIMATED COST OF HIGH COURT MOVE, (2) SOURCE OF FUNDS TO FINANCE MOVE, (3) RATIONALE FOR MOVE AT THIS TIME, AND (4) WHETHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE PROGRESSED TO POINT WHERE DECISION TO REMAIN IN SAIPAN WOULD BE DIFFICULT. INTERIOR IS RELUCTANT TO ASK HIGH COURT TO REMAIN IF ITS PREFERENCE IS TO CONTRARY, BUT IN ABSENCE OF COMPELLING REASON FOR MOVE, WE CURRENTLY BELIEVE EFFICIENCY OF TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE BETTER SERVED BY COURT'S RE-
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MAINTAINING AT HEADQUARTERS SITE. PLEASE SUPPLY FACTS REQUESTED ABOVE. FOLLOWING THEIR RECEIPT, WE WILL ADVISE FURTHER. DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS RUTH G. VAN CLEVE SENDS. VANCE

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Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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